

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

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August 4, 2011

Delta Stewardship Council
ATTN: Phil Isenberg, Chairman
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Chairman Isenberg,

At the July 28, 2011 Delta Protection Commission (Commission) meeting, the Commission took a unanimous position in support of the subvention program that assists local reclamation districts in the maintenance of levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The subvention program has allowed Delta levees to be improved, provided protection to essential infrastructure in the Delta, as well as flood protection for urban areas surrounding the Delta.

As you know, the Delta Plan is discussing recommending a regional agency for managing flood protection with the authority to assess those who benefit from Delta levees. Until this becomes a reality, the need to maintain the levees continues and it is important that work also continues to bring Delta levees up to a PL-84-99 standard for federal participation in a flood event. The subvention program with funds already designated from Propositions 1E and 84 will continue to assist in the improvement of Delta levees, maintain flood protection, and public safety consistent with SBX7-1.

Unfortunately, the current Delta levee maintenance program, provided in Water Code Section 12986, is set to expire on July 1, 2013, unless extended by the Legislature. The Delta Stewardship Council has been asked by the Legislature for a recommendation regarding the subvention program. The Commission urges that the Stewardship Council modify Section 7 of the Delta Plan to endorse continuing this crucial program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don Nottoli".

Don Nottoli
Chair